Pending FTAs projected to create 1,400 Agriculture-related jobs in Iowa

Washington D.C.- Congressman Steve King (R-IA), a senior member of the House Agriculture Committee, today joined Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Congressman Tom Latham (R-IA) on a letter thanking Iowa Governor Terry Branstad for supporting efforts in Congress to pass pending Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the countries of Colombia, South Korea and Panama. Free Trade Agreements with these countries are currently awaiting congressional action, and enactment of them is projected to provide a significant boost to the agricultural and manufacturing sectors of Iowa's economy.

"Governor Branstad understands that passage of the Free Trade Agreements with Colombia, South Korea and Panama will strengthen lowa's economy, and I appreciate his advocacy for quick congressional action," said King. "The Iowa Farm Bureau has estimated that these three trade agreements will create over 1,400 agriculture-related jobs in Iowa and that they will boost Iowa's agricultural exports by \$162.2 million annually. These numbers help illustrate just how uniquely well positioned our state is to benefit from these Free Trade Agreements, and Congress should make their passage a top priority."

All Members of Iowa's congressional delegation in both the House and Senate were extended an opportunity to join Congressman King, Congressman Latham and Senator Grassley in signing the letter of support.

Read the letter.

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